

# \*Ye Olde Plum News\*

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## ANIMAL LOOKALIKES

### GORILLA

About Roderick Spode: *Seven feet in height, and swathed in a plaid ulster which made him look about six feet across, he caught the eye and arrested it. It was as if Nature had intended to make a gorilla, and had changed its mind at the last moment.* (The Code of the Woosters, 1938)

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### PARROTS

Bream Mortimer was tall and thin. He had small bright eyes and a sharply curving nose. He looked much more like a parrot than most parrots do. It gave strangers a momentary shock of surprise when he saw him eating roast beef. They had the feeling that he would have preferred sunflower seeds. (The Girl on the Boat, 1922)

The first sight of Boko (Fittleworth) reveals to the beholder an object with a face like an intellectual parrot ... In appearance, as I have indicated, this man of letters is a cross between a comedy juggler and a parrot that has been dragged through a hedge backwards. (Joy in the Morning, 1947)

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### HALIBUT

Henry Cuthbert Purkiss was Bingo Little's boss. Purkiss looked at him fishily. Nature having made it impossible for him to look at anything otherwise, he being a man with a face like a halibut. ... The fishy glitter in his eye became intensified. He looked like a halibut which has just been asked by another halibut to lend it a couple of quid till next Wednesday. (The Word in Season, 1959)

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### VULTURES

My Aunt Agatha, for instance, is tall and thin and looks rather like a vulture in the Gobi desert. (Much Obligated, Jeeves, 1971)

The solicitor Mr Bunting could have mixed without exciting comment in any gathering of vultures in the Gobi desert. (Frozen Assets, 1964)

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### TAPE-WORM

Gally to Lord Emsworth: *"Well, if that's not what's worrying you, what is? Why are you looking like a bereaved tape-worm?"* (Pigs Have Wings, 1952)

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### CASSOWARY

He found himself brooding on Mr. Shoesmith – not this time on his appearance, for his research work at the office had left him pretty straight in his mind that what the other looked like was a cassowary, but on his character and disposition. (Money In the Bank, 1942)

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### HIPPOPOTAMUS

"Until I introduced them, Stanwood had been to your father merely a pleasant stranger who looked like a hippopotamus." "He does look like a hippopotamus, doesn't he?" "Much more than most hippopotamuses do." "Not that it matters." "Not the least." ... Picture a hippopotamus that has just learned that its love is returned by the female hippopotamus for which it has long entertained feelings deeper and warmer than those of ordinary friendship, and you have Stanwood Cobbold at this moment in his life. (Spring Fever, 1948)

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### WHITE RABBIT

Except that her ears did not stick up and that she went about on two legs instead of four, Phoebe Wisdom was extraordinarily like a white rabbit, a resemblance which was heightened at the moment by the white dressing jacket she was wearing and the fact that much weeping had made her nose and eyes pink. (Cocktail Time, 1958)

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### BIRDS

London solicitors come in every shape, but they have this in common, that with a few negligible exceptions they all look like some species of bird. ... you would find owls, ducks, sparrows, parrots and an occasional ptarmigan. (Frozen Assets, 1964)

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### DACHSHUND

About Edmond Biffen Christopher: *"He looks like a dachshund."* "Pardon?" "Well. He does. Sharp. Pointed features. Animated manner, brown eyes, brown hair, brown suit, brown shoes, Longish nose and not much chin. Just like a dachshund." ... He not only looked like a dachshund, he looked considerably more like a dachshund than most dachshunds do. Seeing him, one got the feeling that Nature had toyed with the idea of making a dog of this breed and on second thoughts had decided to turn out something with the same sort of face but not so horizontal and with no tail. (Frozen Assets, 1964)

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### CROSSBREED

The scene seemed suddenly to change to a police-court, in which he was confronted by a magistrate who looked like an owl with a dash of weasel blood in him. (The Knightly Quest of Mervin, 1933)

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### FISH

Gussie Fink-Nottle "wears horn-rimmed spectacles and has a face like a fish." ... "The gentleman who came to the flat wore horn-rimmed spectacles, sir." "And looked like something on a slab?" "Possibly there was a certain suggestion of the piscine, sir." (Right Ho, Jeeves, 1934)

His (Gussie's) expression was almost identical with that which I had once surprised on the face of a fish, whose name I cannot recall, in the royal aquarium at Monaco. (The Code of the Woosters, 1938)

He blinked like a chidden codfish. (The Mating Season, 1949)

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### LOBSTER

About Jacob Glutz of Medulla-Oblongata-Glutz Movies: *"The man who looks like a lobster?"* "He does not look like a lobster." "Pardon me, he looks more like a lobster than most lobsters do." (The Old Reliable, 1951)

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